

**Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge**

RTT-ELC

Number: 84.412

Agency: Department of Education

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**PROGRAM INFORMATION****Authorization (040):**

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Executive Order Division A, Title XIV, Sections 14005, 14006 and 14013, Public Law 111-5, as amended, Department of Defense and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011, Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2012.

**Objectives (050):**

To improve the quality of early childhood programs and to close the achievement gap for high-need children. The RTT-ELC grant competition focuses on improving early learning and development programs for young children by supporting States' efforts to: (1) increase the number and percentage of low-income and disadvantaged children in each age group of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers who are enrolled in high-quality early learning programs; (2) design and implement an integrated system of high-quality early learning programs and services; and (3) ensure that any use of assessments conforms with the recommendations of the National Research Council's reports on early childhood.

**Types of Assistance (060):**

Project Grants

**Uses and Use Restrictions (070):**

The RTT-ELC grants support States' efforts to increase the number and percentage of low-income and disadvantaged children in each age group of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers who are enrolled in high-quality early learning programs, and to design and implement an integrated system of high-quality early learning programs and services.

**Eligibility Requirements (080)****Applicant Eligibility (081):**

States. Contact the program office for additional eligibility criteria.

**Beneficiary Eligibility (082):**

Infants, preschool children.

**Credentials/Documentation (083):**

Contact the program office. OMB Circular No. A-87 applies to this program.

**Application and Award Process (090)**

**Preapplication Coordination (091):**

Preapplication coordination is not applicable. Environmental impact information is not required for this program. This program is excluded from coverage under E.O. 12372.

**Application Procedures (092):**

OMB Circular No. A-102 applies to this program. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular No. A-110. A panel appointed by the Secretary reviews each application and evaluates the application on the basis of selection criteria published in the Federal Register. The program office reviews financial information to ensure that costs reflect required program elements. The Secretary makes awards based on applicant scores. This program is subject to coverage under OMB Circular No. A-102.

**Award Procedure (093):**

The Secretary of Education and Secretary of Health and Human Services determine which States receive Race to the Top -- Early Learning Challenge grants and the amount of those grants, on the basis of the States' applications under section 1832(b)(1) and other criteria the Secretaries determines to be appropriate.

**Deadlines (094):**

Contact the headquarters or regional office, as appropriate, for application deadlines.

**Range of Approval/Disapproval Time (095):**

Approximately 60 days following the deadline for submitting applications.

**Appeals (096):**

Not Applicable.

**Renewals (097):**

Not Applicable.

**Assistance Consideration (100)****Formula and Matching Requirements (101):**

This program has no statutory formula.

This program has no matching requirements.

This program does not have MOE requirements.

**Length and Time Phasing of Assistance (102):**

The project period of grants is four years. Method of awarding/releasing assistance: lump sum.

**Post Assistance Requirements (110)****Reports (111):**

Details will be included in grant award documents. Details will be included in grant award documents. Details will be included in grant award documents. Details will be included in grant award documents. Details will be included in grant award documents.

**Audits (112):**

In accordance with the provisions of OMB Circular No. A-133 (Revised, June 27, 2003), "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations," nonfederal entities that expend financial assistance of \$500,000 or more in Federal awards will have a single or a program-specific audit conducted for that year. Nonfederal entities

that expend less than \$500,000 a year in Federal awards are exempt from Federal audit requirements for that year, except as noted in Circular No. A-133.

**Records (113):**

As required by EDGAR for State-administered programs (34 CFR 76.730-731). Generally, the State and its subgrantees must retain records related to grant funds and compliance for a period of 3 years from the date the grantee or subgrantee submits its final expenditure report for that funding period. 34 CFR 80.42. Also, all records supporting claims for Federal funds or relating to the accountability of the grantee for the expenditure of such funds must be accessible for administrative review.

**Financial Information (120)****Account Identification (121):**

91-0204-0-1-501.

**Obligations (122):**

(Project Grants) FY 13 \$369,992,020; FY 14 Estimate Not Available; and FY 15 Estimate Not Available

**Range and Average of Financial Assistance (123):**

FY 13: \$37,500,000 - \$75,000,000.

**Program Accomplishments (130):**

Fiscal Year 2013: No Current Data Available. Fiscal Year 2014: No Current Data Available Fiscal Year 2015: No Current Data Available

**Regulations, Guidelines, and Literature (140):**

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop-earlylearningchallenge>.

**Information Contacts (150)****Regional or Local Office (151) :**

None.

**Headquarters Office (152):**

Deborah Spitz Office of Early Learning, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, District of Columbia 20202 Email: [deborah.spitz@ed.gov](mailto:deborah.spitz@ed.gov) Phone: (202) 260-3793

**Website Address (153):**

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop-earlylearningchallenge>

**Related Programs (160):**

84.173 Special Education\_Preschool Grants; 84.181 Special Education-Grants for Infants and Families; 84.416 Race to the Top - District Grants; 93.575 Child Care and Development Block Grant; 93.600 Head Start; 93.708 ARRA - HEAD START; 93.709 ARRA EARLY HEAD START

**Examples of Funded Projects (170):**

Fiscal Year 2013: No Current Data Available Fiscal Year 2014: No Current Data Available Fiscal Year 2015: No Current Data Available

**Criteria for Selecting Proposals (180):**

Criteria were described in the notices inviting applications in 2011 and 2012.